



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Retraining Assistance Program Fact Sheet

Congress passed, and the President signed into law, the VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011. Included in this new law is the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP). VRAP offers up to 12 months of training assistance to unemployed Veterans. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of Labor (DOL) are working together to roll out this new program on July 1, 2012.

ELIGIBILITY

To qualify, a Veteran must:

- Be at least 35 but no more than 60 years old
- Be unemployed
- Have an other than dishonorable discharge
- Not be eligible for any other VA education benefit program (e.g.: the Post-9/11 GI Bill, Montgomery GI Bill, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Assistance)
- Not be in receipt of VA compensation due to unemployability
- Not be enrolled in a Federal or state job training program

PARTICIPANTS LIMITS AND PAYMENTS

The program is limited to **45,000 participants** from July 1, 2012 through September 30, 2012, and to **54,000 participants** from October 1, 2012, through March 31, 2014. Participants may receive up to 12 months of assistance equal to the monthly full-time payment rate under the Montgomery GI Bill–Active Duty program (currently **\$1,473 per month**). DOL will provide employment assistance to every Veteran who participates upon completion of the program. VA will begin accepting application online here by **May 15, 2012**.

ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS

Participants must be enrolled in a program of education approved for VA benefits that is offered by a community college or technical school. The program must lead to an Associate Degree, Non-College Degree, or a Certificate, and train the Veteran for a high demand occupation. Search for an approved program here.

HOW TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION

Visit http://qibill.va.gov/documents/factsheets/VOW_FAQ.pdf to read frequently asked questions about VRAP. Call us at 1-800-827-1000 to learn more information about the VOW to Hire Heroes act of 2011, or visit us at <http://www.benefits.va.gov/vow>.